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Agenda item 45

Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas)**Letter dated 18 October 2010 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Ecuador to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

I have the honour to transmit herewith the declaration adopted by the Union of South American Nations on the question of the Malvinas Islands and the special communiqué on the Union's rejection of the British announcement of intent to fire missiles from the territory of the Malvinas Islands (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 45.

(Signed) **Diego Morejón**
Deputy Permanent Representative of Ecuador
to the United Nations



**Annex to the letter dated 18 October 2010 from the Chargé
d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Ecuador to the
United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

**Declaration on military activities of the United Kingdom in
the Malvinas Islands**

The States members of the Union of South American Nations, in view of the communication of 8 October 2010 whereby British military forces informed the Argentine authorities that they planned to fire missiles from the territory of the Malvinas Islands, hereby protest, in the firmest and most vigorous terms, the intent to conduct this military exercise, and demand that the British Government refrain from carrying it out.

They likewise reject the conduct of such exercises, which contrasts sharply with the region's policy of consistently seeking to resolve the dispute by exclusively peaceful means, as urged by the international community and in accordance with United Nations General Assembly resolution 31/49, which calls upon the two parties to refrain from taking decisions that would imply introducing unilateral modifications in the situation while the islands are going through the process recommended by the General Assembly.

Accordingly, they reaffirm the tenor of previous declarations and reiterate their strong support for the legitimate rights of the Argentine Republic in the sovereignty dispute with the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland over the question of the Malvinas Islands. They also recall that the region has an abiding interest in the resumption of negotiations by the Governments of the Argentine Republic and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in order to find, as soon as possible, a peaceful and definitive solution to the sovereignty dispute over the Malvinas Islands, South Georgia Islands and South Sandwich Islands and the surrounding maritime areas, in accordance with the relevant resolutions and declarations of the United Nations and the Organization of American States.

Quito, Ecuador
12 October 2010